

THE AMERICAN FARMER

Established 1819.

WASHINGTON, D. C., FEBRUARY 15, 1894.

75th Year. New Series.—No. 52.



BY S. L. WATKINS, GRIZZLY FLATS, CAL.

THE GROWING OF prunes in California is now one of the leading industries, and I think that it may be safe in stating that every County at present contains a number of prune growing orchards.

The hot, interior valleys, however, are acknowledged to be the most superior sections for the growth and production of these celebrated fruits.

The Sierra Nevada Mountains will grow them to perfection, but the valley sections will always prove the most profitable, because the cost of production is considerably less, and also the facilities for marketing are cheaper.

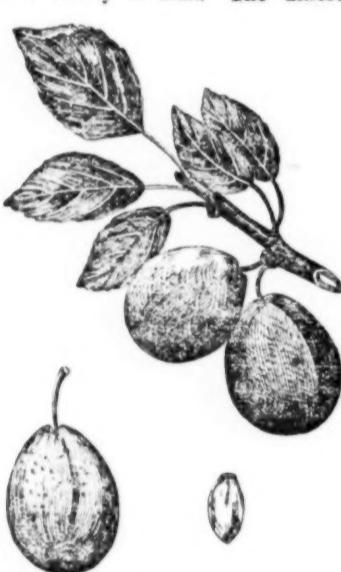
French prunes can be successfully grown at 4,500 feet elevation above sea level, but they must be dried by an evaporator at these altitudes. Still, a great per cent. of the French prunes in California are evaporated, even in the most favorable drying districts.

The production of prunes in California for 1892 was 25,000,000 pounds, and it is now estimated that in five years, when the thousands of young orchards will commence bearing, the yield will be 500,000,000 pounds. This is an immense amount of fruit, and many growers are in doubt as to the marketing of such vast amounts. But one thing is certain, the prune growing districts of the world are limited, and the favored localities that produce this fruit to perfection, will, as it were, hold a monopoly over the rest of the world in this particular line.

In regard to overproduction, if a systematic distribution is followed out, the whole crop can be marketed with profitable results to all parties concerned. There are tens of thousands of persons who, figuratively speaking, know nothing at all of this most delicious fruit, and all persons who once sample the well cured California prune, I think, will be lasting customers.

There are about 2,000,000 prune trees in California, and the largest prune orchard contains about 300 acres. The standard distance for setting prune trees is about 20 feet apart.

The prune tree has very few enemies, comparatively speaking, less than any other variety of fruit. The different



CALIFORNIA PRUNE.

species of scale so destructive to most orchards is not a very great enemy to the prune. Most all varieties of prunes are rapid, vigorous-growing trees, and commence bearing at a very early age. The cost of curing and picking French prunes is extremely cheap in comparison to other varieties of fruit.

The fruit of the French prune is not picked until it is thoroughly ripe, and is then gathered as follows: A canvas sheet is arranged on wheels, and is made in such a way as to admit the trunk of the tree. It is also wide enough to catch the fruit from the outside branches. A hole is made in the canvas and the canvas is inclined enough to allow the fruit to roll into any box or other receptacle which is placed underneath. The tree is slightly jarred, and the ripe fruit tumbles down. After being gathered it is taken to the curing-house, where it is run through a grading machine to properly assort the prunes and to remove all inferior fruit, leaves, and buds of branches that may have happened to be shaken in at the time of gathering. The fruit after being assorted is submerged 15 or 20 seconds in scalding hot water which is charged with lye (about

one pound of lye to 20 gallons of water). The operation is to crack the skin, so as to facilitate drying.

The fruit, which is in a wire dipper, is next submerged in pure cold water to remove all impurities and dirt which may be upon the prunes. It is then ready to be placed upon trays to dry in the sun. This latter requires from four to ten days to properly cure in the sun. The prunes must not be too dry; just dry enough to keep properly. After being dried they are placed in the sweating-room, and are allowed to remain there three to four weeks; preferably four, because a beautiful gloss is added, which makes the fruit very attractive and salable. The prunes are placed about two feet deep in the bins, and are turned over every few days to facilitate sweating.

The French have a method of drying, or rather cooking and sun drying to



THE GERMAN PRUNE.

are very prolific bearers, they should not be allowed to bear too heavily. A judicious and proper system of pruning should be employed, in governing the load of fruit a tree should carry. The

land for several seasons can be used for raising potatoes, beans, corn, etc.; so that enough can be made this way to pay expenses until the prune orchard commences to bear. Prunes however, commence bearing at a very early age, and in a few years yield a great many pounds of fruit. Two and a half to three pounds of green fruit are required to make one pound of dried fruit. Average prune trees during their prime bearing period should yield from 60 to 300 pounds of fruit per season. As the French prunes

ing. It is of medium size and very productive.

The Black German prune must not be classed with the common German prune, as it is widely different. The common German prune is not a good bearer, at least what trees I have observed were not, but the Black German is immensely productive, the trees commencing to bear at a very early age. The fruit is large, oblong in shape, and a glossy black when ripe. They are more delicious and highly flavored than any fruit that I know of. They are very superior to ship green, and command the highest market prices. A grower here in El Dorado has realized over \$90 per tree from this variety of fruit. It is also very valuable as a drying fruit.

The Tragedy prune is the earliest of all, and is more especially desirable as a green shipping fruit. It is, however, a very fair drying fruit, having a sub-acid flavor when dried. It is said to be a cross between the German prune and Duane's purple plum. It is reddish-black in color, flesh green and sweet.

Fellenberg (Italian prune) is a general favorite in the Coast regions. It is large, oval in shape, very juicy, sweet and delicious; a deep reddish-purple in color, covered with a blue bloom. It is a superior shipping and drying prune.

The Hungarian prune grows to perfection in the mountain soil of the Sierras, and is very valuable as a green shipping fruit. When thoroughly ripe, it is a splendid prune to eat. It is a reddish-violet.

There are the Oregon or Silver prune, the Golden, Elmore, Diamond, Ruby, and several other varieties that I have not mentioned, which possess considerable merit, and are extremely valuable for certain localities.

All things considered, the growing of prunes for commercial purposes is as profitable as any horticultural industry known; that is, in all locations to which such fruits are adapted.

Prunes are a staple food, and when the products of California's orchards become more widely known, the market for such will be almost unlimited.

J. B. FURROW.

Vice-President of the National Farmers' Alliance.

J. B. Furrow was born in 1833 in Ohio. He was raised in the "backwoods," and his early education was



trees should be pruned, so as to form extremely stout limbs, and to form plenty of bearing surface, and, at the same time, a beautiful, symmetrical tree.

In setting out an orchard it is advisable to have every third or fourth row some different variety, so that the trees may become properly fertilized.

For commercial purposes, an orchard composed of one-third Tragedy prunes, one-third Black German and one-third Petit d'Agen will be best, as these, I believe, are the three best paying prunes.

To the future prune grower who desires a description of the prunes grown in California, I would mention the following: Petit d'Agen, a California French prune, is similar or identical to the prune of commerce that the French raise, and is the leading commercial prune grown in California. It is of medium size, very sweet and delicious, and when fully ripe a beautiful violet-red, merging into an intense glowing black. Its trees are vigorous growers. Robe d'Sergeant is considerably larger than the Petit d'Agen. It is violet-red in color, covered with a dense blue bloom. It is not so highly flavored

as the Petit d'Agen, but is a very profuse bearer and pyriform in shape.

Mount Barbet d'Ente—One of the very best fruits for a dessert prune. It is very large, and makes a fine dried fruit.

St. Catherine—A very desirable prune in every respect. It is of a beautiful yellow color, overspread with a thin bloom. It is deliciously sweet and perfumed, and is exceedingly valuable for preserving purposes, as well as for dry

ing.

The farmers of western Kansas urge

the creation of the office of State Irrigation Engineer, whose duty it shall be to

study the problem of irrigation in the

State and give the people the necessary

instruction as to the best means and methods.

The farmers of western Kansas urge

the creation of the office of State Irrigation

Engineer, whose duty it shall be to

study the problem of irrigation in the

State and give the people the necessary

instruction as to the best means and methods.

The farmers of western Kansas urge

the creation of the office of State Irrigation

Engineer, whose duty it shall be to

study the problem of irrigation in the

State and give the people the necessary

instruction as to the best means and methods.

The farmers of western Kansas urge

the creation of the office of State Irrigation

Engineer, whose duty it shall be to

study the problem of irrigation in the

State and give the people the necessary

instruction as to the best means and methods.

The farmers of western Kansas urge

the creation of the office of State Irrigation

Engineer, whose duty it shall be to

study the problem of irrigation in the

State and give the people the necessary

instruction as to the best means and methods.

The farmers of western Kansas urge

the creation of the office of State Irrigation

Engineer, whose duty it shall be to

study the problem of irrigation in the

State and give the people the necessary

instruction as to the best means and methods.

The farmers of western Kansas urge

the creation of the office of State Irrigation

Engineer, whose duty it shall be to

study the problem of irrigation in the

State and give the people the necessary

instruction as to the best means and methods.

The farmers of western Kansas urge

the creation of the office of State Irrigation

Engineer, whose duty it shall be to

study the problem of irrigation in the

State and give the people the necessary

instruction as to the best means and methods.

The farmers of western Kansas urge

the creation of the office of State Irrigation

Engineer, whose duty it shall be to

study the problem of irrigation in the

State and give the people the necessary

instruction as to the best means and methods.

The farmers of western Kansas urge

the creation of the office of State Irrigation

Engineer, whose duty it shall be to

study the problem of irrigation in the

State and give the people the necessary

instruction as to the best means and methods.

The farmers of western Kansas urge

the creation of the office of State Irrigation

Engineer, whose duty it shall be to

study the problem of irrigation in the

State and give the people the necessary

instruction as to the best means and methods.

The farmers of western Kansas urge

the creation of the office of State Irrigation

Engineer, whose duty it shall be to

study the problem of irrigation in the

State and give the people the necessary

instruction as to the best means and methods.

The farmers of western Kansas urge

the creation of the office of State Irrigation

Engineer, whose duty it shall be to

study the problem of irrigation in the

State and give the people the necessary

instruction as to the best means and methods.

The farmers of western Kansas urge

the creation of the office of State Irrigation

Engineer, whose duty it shall be to

study the problem of irrigation in the

State and give the people the necessary

instruction as to the best means and methods.

The farmers of western Kansas urge

the creation of the office of State Irrigation

Engineer, whose duty it shall be to

study the problem of irrigation in the

State and give the people the necessary

instruction as to the best means and methods.

The farmers of western Kansas urge

the creation of the office of State Irrigation

Engineer, whose duty it shall be to

study the problem of irrigation in the

State and give the people the necessary

instruction as to the best means and methods.

The farmers of western Kansas urge

the creation of the office of State Irrigation

Engineer, whose duty it shall be to

study the problem of irrigation in the

State and give the people the necessary

instruction as to the best means and methods.

The farmers of western Kansas urge



Yard Echoes.

Smutty corn should always be burned instead of fed to stock. Remember this.

Inist upon the friendliest relations with every head of live stock on the place. This kind goeth not out by kicks and neglect.

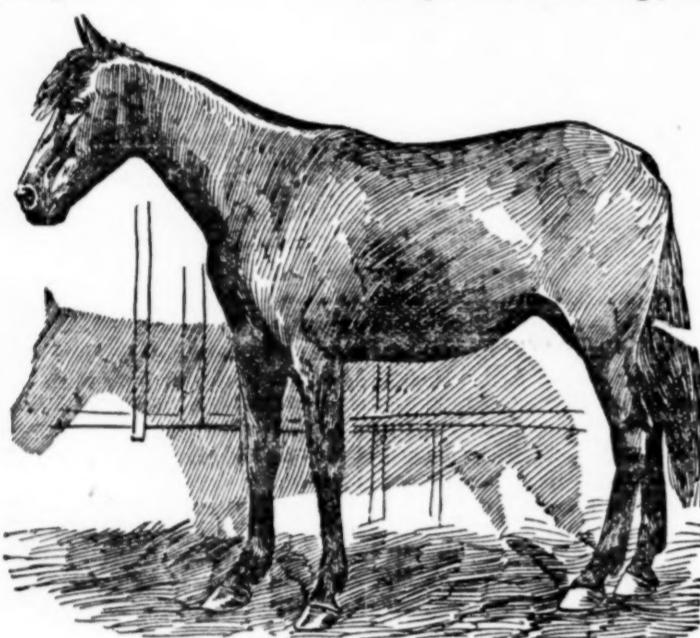
Stock should feel—handle—well rather than look well. The eye may be deceived, but the hand will tell whether the skin is loose or the body a sack of bones.

Save the best hay, especially the clover, for later on next Spring for incoming cows, mares, and ewes; they will need it more than any other stock. Remember this, please.

Sheep, colts, and calves should not be turned on the growing wheat and rye when the ground is wet, so that it will poach. This does not apply to sandy and so much as clay or loam.

The New Jersey Board of Agriculture has adopted a resolution asking the Legislature to appropriate \$20,000 for the inspection of cattle and remuneration of farmers whose cattle may be slaughtered on account of tuberculosis.

There never has been a time when pure-bred stock was so easily within the reach of the common farmer as now. There never has been a time when the outlook for poor and scrub stock was so unsatisfactory. Only the best stock has a promising future.



LADY WHITELAW, DAM OF GEB (2:201) AND RAMONA WILKES (2:291).

Be sure that there is a shelter for every animal on the farm, a comfortable place where it will be warm no matter what sort of weather comes. If, though, it should be that the important shelter is not provided and can't be, then sell the poor beast or give it away.

Don't turn stock into an open, bare, shelterless pasture these wintry days unless there is provided hay or straw ricks or racks full of hay for them to pass the time with. A load of corn fodder may be hauled out on clean pasture land for the stock to pick at.

Winter is bad enough at best, but is especially terrible to the farmer who has no secure comforts in store for his stock. When the snow and sleet come and the mighty cow stands humped up in the fence corner the long, dreary night through, it would be little wonder if purgatorial nightmares visited the owner in his comfortable bed so that he could not sleep.

The Board of Health of Pittsfield, Mass., has quarantined as tuberculous suspects eight more head of the gilt-edge Durham dairy herd of W. F. Milton, of the famous "Unkempt Farm." A dozen of these cows have already been killed, and the prospects are that the entire valuable herd will be entirely wiped out by it.

The Cost of Beef in European Cities.
From a return just issued, showing the average retail price per pound, avoirdupois, of various articles of domestic consumption in some of the principal cities of Europe during last year, it would seem that the prices of prime beef varied very much. In Prague beef could be obtained for 14 cents a pound; in Vienna for 16 cents; in Rome and Budapest for 17 cents; while in Paris the price fluctuated between 25 cents and 29 cents, and in Lille as much as 32½ cents had to be paid. Flour, on the other hand, ranged from two and one-fifth cents in Budapest to three cents in Paris, Frankfort, and Florence. Potatoes were under two cents a pound in all the cities except Hamburg.

Cattle Growers Organize.

The cattle growers of Park, El Paso, Douglass and Jefferson Counties, Colo., have formed an association for their mutual protection. For years the cattle-men have suffered from depredations of men who killed cattle. Several thieves have been sent to the penitentiary, but the stealing did not cease. Rules will be adopted by the new association which will stop the trouble.

Tuberculosis Among Cattle.

An outbreak of tuberculosis among valuable cattle at the State Experiment farm at Burlington, Vt., is causing considerable alarm among the farmers throughout the State. The State Board of Cattle Commissioners, however, believe that while the disease is prevalent in Burlington, there is no cause to fear that it will spread.

A GREAT MOTHER.

"Lady Whitelaw," of Ohio.

Jas. D. McMann has a proud place in stable history as the driver of Flora Temple when she broke the trotting record at Kalamazoo in 1859 with a mile in 2:19½. He had also broken the pacing record four years previously with Pocahontas, making a mile in 2:17½. He was the owner of a daughter of Rysdyk's Hambletonian, which he sold to George Sprague, of Cleveland, O., and became locally famous as "the Sprague mare." It is generally believed that her dam was Hero of Chester. She had two foals—Expectation, a bay gelding, who made a record of 2:25; and the other was Lady Whitelaw, foaled in 1871, and sired by Mambrino Clay. She was not bred until 13 years old. Her complete list of foals is as follows:

1885, b f Nettie L., by Annapolis, 989.
1886, b f Ramona Wilkes, 2:291, by Brown Wilkes, 2:214.

1887, b c Prince Whitelaw, by Vigil Rene, 11,616.

1888, b f Geb, 2:201, by Vigil Rene, 11,616.

1889, b f unnamed, by Vigil Rene, 11,616.

1890, unnamed.

1891, b f unnamed, by Brown Wilkes, 2:211.

1892, b f unnamed, by Brown Wilkes, 2:211.

1893, gr f unnamed, by Conductor, 2:25.

1894, with foal by Buckeye Bourbon, 17,232.

Nettie L. was injured so that she could not be trained, and has been used for breeding.

Ramona Wilkes was sold to go to Europe. She was a large, handsome

SHEEP AND WOOL.

Shearings.

One man knows how to keep sheep and another does not; this makes all the difference in the world in the profits.

It is believed the receipts of sheep at Chicago during the past year will foot up 3,025,000 head, or \$43,000 more than in 1890, the previous banner year.

Mr. C. P. Bailey, importer, breeder, and dealer in Angora goats, California, says: "Only one-tenth enough mohair is raised in the United States for home consumption."

True flock and flockmen are being tried as by fire in this country, but the ordeal will have a beneficial effect upon the future character of flocks and the economies of the flock raisers.

The Commissioner of Agriculture, Labor, and Statistics of Kentucky, says: "The average number of breeding ewes for lambs this Spring is two per cent. less than a year ago."

The heaviest sheep at the World's Columbian sheep show was Keepsake No. 7469, a three-year-old Oxford Down, weighing 436 pounds just before starting to the Fair. He is owned by W. A. Shafer, Secretary of the Association, Middletown, O.

Campbell, Hunt & Adams, Kansas City Stock Yards, in speaking of the sheep industry said a few days ago: "We do not believe it will be long before they will realize better prices, for there is nothing like the number on feed that there was last year."

South Dakota Farmer: While tens of thousands of sheep are being slaughtered at every shipping point, we are glad to note that many of the sheep which have been put upon the market in South Dakota have merely changed hands; particularly is this true of our best ewe flocks.

The use of sheep bells has been practiced by shepherds of all countries for centuries, and deserve to be used in every flock, large or small. It is safe to say use 10 bells to every 100 sheep. No flockman can afford to be without them, and when once used will not be without them again.

Size up the kind of a sheep that will be profitable under free trade, and begin at once to shape yourself and the farm for the future. This may not be regarded as good advice coming from us, but this is safe. The sheep that can possibly pay its way and a little more under the free-will, will be a good sheep to keep under the McKinley Law.

Several times during the last 30 years the sheep industry has been depressed once or twice to the very verge of despair; but each time a way was found that brought better results than was expected. The improvement of flocks in the direction of wool was very beneficial, and it will be again, but it must have mutation in close connection. The more of each the better. Keep this always in mind.

It is quite often, too often in fact, that chickens are allowed to roost in the sheep sheds, and the introduction of lice is sure to follow. That these mites can exist on the sheep is well known to us, and that they will prove quite annoying, which means detrimental to the growth and thrift of the flock. Provide a place for the hens, and set to it that they change quarters at once. The sheep sheds should be thoroughly renovated, not once but repeatedly until no suspicion of lice is left.

The other foals are all of great promise, and the trotting world will hear of one or more of them this season.

Lady Whitelaw is a dark-bay mare with white star in forehead; stands about 15½ hands high, and weighs 1,050 pounds. She was a mare of good trotting action, and although untrained was driven upon the road in Cleveland, and it is reliably stated that she could beat 2:40 any time when in her prime. She was bred by Major M. Solloway, of Cleveland, passed from him to H. C. Miller, of the same city, later became the property of Edward Crowl, and was then sold to S. K. Warner, Wellington, O., who owns her at the present time.

The Cost of Beef in European Cities.
Now that the season is not so busy, and there is more time for thinking over the year's enterprises, labors, and results, take a look backwards, and see if mistakes were not made that could have been avoided; if there were no losses that were unnecessary. Most men learn by experience, and sometimes, but if possible it is not allowed the same experiences to be turned to so bad account again.

Two men will start in sheep raising at the same time with the same sort of sheep and as near as can be bred and fed alike. Ten years will show a difference in the flocks and bank accounts. One was diligent, careful, and gentle. The other trusted providence and fretted at his bad luck; he would whoop things up every now and then, and make things stand around. His sheep were afraid of him.

Don't Part With Your Sheep.

If the Wilson Tariff Bill should pass the Senate, prices for American wools may be unremunerative for a few years; but flockowners, nevertheless, should hold on to their sheep. We advise this course; at least, until the fate of the Wilson Bill is settled, for if the McKinley law should escape the attacks made upon it, prices for wool advance and the value of sheep would double. Therefore, to all who can do so, we say, don't part with your sheep, but take advantage of the low prices and buy sheep. Prices are probably at the bottom, and if this should be the case, there is everything to gain and nothing to lose. The slaughter of flocks has been so great all over the world that a turn in the tide is not improbable.

Beecham's Pills

Worth 2 Guineas
A Box
Price 25 cents.

Justice, Bateman & Co.'s Circular.

MONTANA SHEEP NOTES.

Some Items of Interest to the Wool Growers.

HERE are over 600 flockmasters in Montana, with an invested capital of \$12,000,000. The Montana sheep raisers have petitioned Congress to let the present protective duties on wool remain, and if it must be reduced, that the law shall not go into effect for two years from the date of passing the new law.

During the year 1892, 4,000,000 pounds of wool were shipped from Great Falls, Mont. Montana wool is of excellent quality, due to the excellence of the food, the buoyancy of the climate, the intelligent care given the sheep, and the character of the breeding stock.

The weight of fleeces in large flocks average from four and a half to eight pounds, depending upon the season, the kind of rams used in the flocks, and the size of bands. Last year's clip sold at 10½ to 18 cents per pound. B. C. White, who owns 12,500 sheep in Judith Basin, clipped 61,000 pounds of wool, which sold for 18 cents per pound. Mr. White estimates the raising of a pound of wool will cost 12 cents a pound when wages, shearing, freight and ranch supplies are adjusted to suit the inevitable emergencies that stare the Montana wool grower in the face.

At a late meeting of Montana flockmen a resolution was passed fixing the price of shearing at six cents per head with board, or 7 cents without board. In regard to wages of herders, the conclusion arrived at was that \$25 to \$40 per month should be charged to \$25 per month for common hands on the ranch, and \$30 per month for old, reliable herders. Among a few flockmasters it was thought that wages should be further reduced at least \$5 per month on both grades of help.

The conclusions of the meeting were, that with the same intelligent system and conditions as are prevailing in a few years unlimited quantities of the best wool could be produced; that there were wonderful possibilities of expansion, but if the National Government removes the present barriers and turns the markets over to foreign producers it will prostrate the industry.

It is believed that no region in the United States can produce better wool than Montana, but it is conceded that the cost is greater than in regions that require no shelter and feed during winter.

The matter of transportation rates alone handicaps the Montana wool grower very seriously. To illustrate this point it is only necessary to state that it costs half a cent a pound to put Australian wool into the Boston market via San Francisco, but it costs three to three and a half cents to put unwashed Montana wool on the Boston market. This is an injustice that should be corrected, and will be in time, to the satisfaction of all concerned.

The Montana wool growers are the brightest and shrewdest men in the business, and will figure out the best possible sheep husbandry for their surroundings and conditions.

SHEARING MACHINE.

An Invention which Promises a Reform in Wool Production.

In the reports of the United States Commissioners to the Centennial International Exhibition at Melbourne, 1888, is given a full description of such an invention under the head "sheep shearing," which will no doubt interest American wool growers. We quote: "A novelty in sheep station appliances is shown which promises to effect an important reform in the process of wool production.

The wool growers of Australia have long been subject to inconvenience and loss through the difficulty they have experienced in securing the necessary force of skilled workmen at shearing time; but an ingenious member of this class, Mr. F. Y. Woolsley, has provided what is likely to prove an effectual remedy in the shape of a sheep-shearing machine. It took him 10 years to perfect his invention, and at last he got it extensively introduced, and with the best results. Its operative parts resemble those of a reaping machine. A comb with 11 blunt teeth, which is a segment of a circle of three inches in diameter, is pushed along the sheep's skin to raise the wool and is followed by a cutting tool with three teeth, a segment of a circle of three-quarters of an inch, and this snips off the fleece by a reciprocating action, taking all the wool and leaving neither tufts nor ridges to lessen the weight of the clip. The animal can be shorn as bare as is desired, and when closely clipped presents a beautiful pink surface without cuts or gashes. In an experimental trial of the machine, large-bodied merino wethers with three or four months' growth of wool upon them were shorn clean in four minutes each, while similar sheep hand-clipped were put under the machine and yielded eight and a half ounces more wool per head than they had already yielded to the hand clipper. An unskilled workman can be taught to manage the apparatus in a few hours or days at the outside, and an eight-horse power engine can run 100 machines. The cost of them is about £10 (\$50) each."

Such a mechanical contrivance for shearing sheep has long been wanted by wool growers in this country. The only wonder is that some Yankee genius has not invented one and put it on the market long ago. It is earnestly hoped that such a machine may be introduced into this country at an early day. It seems that it might not only save wool and torture for the animal, but in rapid work would cheapen the raising of wool materially.

As to the motive power, a steam

OUR WONDERFUL SEED OFFER.

Northern Grown Tested Seeds.



THE FARM GARDEN.

Collection No. 1.

To anyone sending us 50 cents for THE AMERICAN FARMER one year we will send this package postpaid.

Onion, Red Wethersfield.....\$.05

Cabbage, Surprise.....10

Carrot, Early Tree.....10

Beet, Eclipse.....05

Bean, Refuse.....05

Muss, Early Cory.....05

Radish, Early Erfurt.....10

Lettuce, E. Simpson.....05

Pea, May's Premier.....05

Water Melon, Kolb's Green.....05

Turnip, Early Milan.....05

Radish, Long Scarlet.....05

Squash, Silky.....05

Spinach, Common.....05

Parsnip, Hollow Ground.....05

Radish, White Star.....10

Spinach, Long Standing.....05

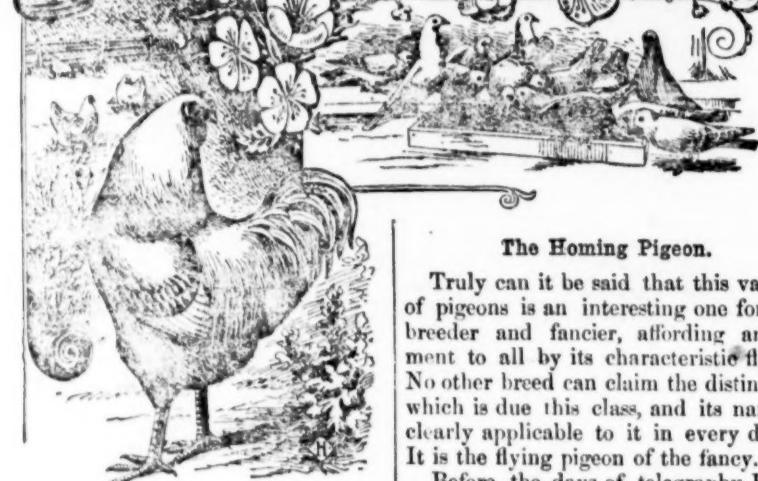
Packet price.....\$1.00

Packet alone to Subscribers 50c.

Retail price.....\$1.00

Packet alone to Subscribers 40c.

POLTRY PIGEONS & PET STOCK

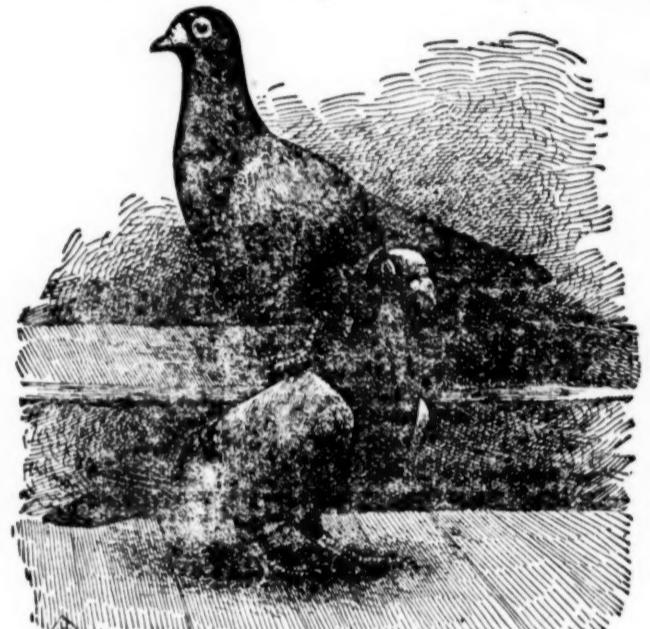


The Homing Pigeon.

Truly it can be said that this variety of pigeons is an interesting one for the breeder and fancier, affording amusement to all by its characteristic flying. No other breed can claim the distinction which is due this class, and its name is clearly applicable to it in every detail. It is the flying pigeon of the fancy.

Before the days of telegraphy Homing pigeons were frequently employed for business purposes, loft of well-trained birds being of great value to the proprietors of newspapers, sportsmen and others for an early transmission of news.

The utility of the Homing pigeon for practical purposes is being cultivated with much zeal to-day throughout the country. Numerous lofts have been



PAIR HOMERS.

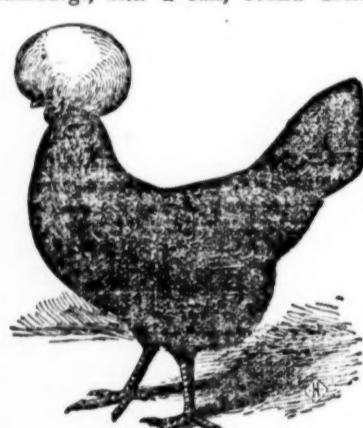
built quite recently by the leading newspapers of large cities for supplying rapid transit of news. The Government is utilizing the Homer for messenger purposes, and is establishing lofts and flying stations in many parts of the country.

If well bred and judiciously trained, the distance these birds will travel is remarkable; but perhaps not more so than the velocity of their flight. Journeys of 200 to 500 miles are by no means uncommon, and many "flys" are on record from 700 to 1,000 miles. The pace at which Homing pigeons travel, and the distance they cover, is governed by the atmospheric conditions. A mile a minute may be taken as a fair average for long journeys, but short distances may be done much quicker, wind and weather being favorable.

The modern working Homer is bred exclusively for flying purposes, color and markings being totally disregarded in the mating. The stock birds must be possessed of great power and much endurance—properties that can only be proved by their having covered long distances.

White Crested Black Polish.

The Polish fowl is a very useful bird for the breeder and fancier. Aside from their strange beauty, they are considered a general-purpose fowl. They are hardy, good layers and excellent fowls for table purposes. They are a medium-sized fowl, slightly larger than the Hamburgs, with a full, round breast,



WHITE CRESTED BLACK POLISH HEN.

carried well forward. Their backs are perfectly straight, broad at the shoulders and narrowing at the tail, which is upright and well expanded. The crest of the cock is composed of narrow feathers something like those which form the hackle of the neck and saddle. They should rise well in front, so as not to obstruct the sight, and fall over to the back and sides in a flowing mass. The crest of the hen is formed of feathers growing upward and turning in at the extremities, and should be large and globular in form and compact in character, with no sign of parting. In color the Black Polish are a deep black throughout, excepting the crest, which is pure white. The combs are small and are shaped like a V, the upper part retreating into the crest. Polish fowls are divided into two classes—Bearded and Unbearded; the former being the more popular.

A Big Show.

There were 3,000 fowls at the exhibition of the New York Poultry Association at Madison Square Garden, New York City, from Feb. 8 to 13, inclusive.

THE AMERICAN FARMER is only 50 cents a year.

THE CANARY.

A Sweet-Voiced Pet of Many Thousand Homes.
EDWARD S. SCHMID

HE CANARY continues to hold first place in the affections of all lovers of birds. Their warblings are as the bright sunshine in the American home to-day; their cheery notes are heard from morn until night, with all their sweetness and harmony. As pets they claim admiration from the entire household, and all are jealous in their care and treatment, for fear that some mishap may befall them, and cause them to stop singing.

Canaries may be mated during the months of January, February, March, April and May. The breeding cage should be from 15 to 24 inches long. Place the male alongside the female, in a separate cage; give them a few days play, say from four to eight days; they will, in that time, gain more affection for each other.

Never allow two crested birds to pair, as their progeny are likely to be bald or malformed about the head.

lay, then return the eggs and all will go well.

Three days before the hatching of the first egg feed the bird, in addition to the seed, half a hard boiled egg grated and mixed with cracker dust, or better, some "Bird Dainties," and continue this diet until the nestlings are old enough to take care of themselves.

The young birds when weaned from the old birds should be placed in a cage



CRESTED NORWICH CANARY.

entirely away; otherwise fretfulness is encouraged, which is well to avoid. A wire partition will do for a day or so when they are first separated, so that the old birds can feed them through the wires. When caging-off young birds, give them at first grated egg and cracker, or our "Bird Dainties." When they are about a month old introduce seed into the cage in a separate dish and also a little soaked rape seed, with the view of giving the birds an opportunity of finding out what the seed is intended for. Generally, when about six weeks old, the young Canaries begin to shell the seed, and at that time the proportion of soft food may be gradually diminished until the seed at length takes the place of the egg and cracker. An increase of seed shells upon the cage bottom will be a guide in reducing the quantity of soft food.

When the young birds are two or three weeks old and can eat alone, and sometimes before quitting the nest, the males commence swelling out their throats and trying to warble. The sexes may thus be distinguished, as the female seldom tries to warble, and when they do it is always in a less marked degree than the males.

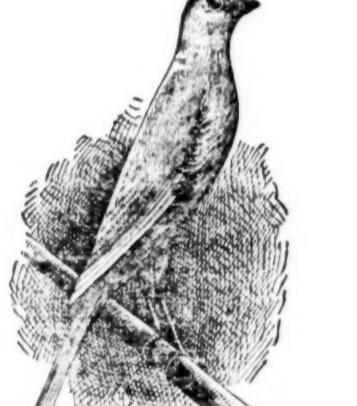
If it is desired to make very fine sin-



NORWICH CANARY.

each other than if put together at once; which frequently causes them to quarrel and fight, and perhaps necessitate their separation.

There should always be placed in the mating cage a piece of cuttle-bone for the formation of shell, or the hen may lay soft-shell eggs. There is also required some of our bird nesting material for the construction of the nest. To the seed diet of the mated birds there should be added hard boiled egg and cracker, rolled



YORKSHIRE CANARY.

fers of the young males, as fine as the highly-vaunted Andreasberg Rollers, they should be put in small wire cages, separated from each other, covered entirely over with coverings of muslin, so that they can see no external objects, and yet have sufficient light to feed by. These cages should then be arranged around the walls of a room the only tenants of which are fine-singing birds, such as nightingales, linnets, skylarks, blackcaps, etc., and one or two Andreasberg Rollers, or other trained Canaries. The young birds will acquire the fine notes of some or all of the other birds. Of course, the longer they are kept at such a school the more proficient they will become.

If a young canary is hung in a darkened cage, out of hearing of the song of all other birds, and some simple air played on a flute, piano or organ, three or four times a day, he will readily pick



BELGIAN CANARY.

up all or a portion of it, and add it to his repertoire of notes.

There are various points to be observed and to contend with while breeding canaries. By meddling too much with the nest or eggs, or allowing strangers to pry about your birds during nesting, restless hens will often forsake their nests and young. The young are sometimes killed in the egg by loud or near noises, such as thunder, the firing of a gun, slamming of a door, etc.

A vivified atmosphere will encourage uneasiness in hens, and sometimes cause them to leave their nests.

Some hens and males will occasionally pick and peck at the nestlings. This is usually caused by vermin that irritate them, making them peevish and fretful.

After the young birds are 14 days old it is always best to put them in a clean nest and destroy the old one, which is by this time usually infested by lice.

When eggs are infertile it is, 9 times out of 10, the fault of the male, and another should be secured.

Hens, especially young ones, just prior to laying appear dull, and sometimes so weak as to be unable to reach the nest. When this is the case, apply a little sweet oil on a feather to the vent, and

place the hen on her nest. Holding her over the steam of a kettle for a few seconds also aids in the ejection of the egg.

When the breeding cage is hung in a very warm and dry room, it will be beneficial on the day before the young birds are due to take each one out of the nest with a spoon and dip it in tepid water.

In order to produce handsome yellow birds the male should be a pale yellow, and the female a deep yellow bird. A clear yellow bird mated with a very deep green hen will probably have handsome mottled young. A very deep yellow male mated with a very deep green hen often produce the beautiful cinnamon bird.

Never allow two crested birds to pair, as their progeny are likely to be bald or malformed about the head.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

EARLY-HATCHED CHICKS.—How early would you advise me to hatch Plymouth Rock chicks? I am an amateur in the poultry business, and read your poultry columns with great interest.—S. R., Fort Plain, N. Y.

The old saying "the early bird catches the worm" is equally applicable to the early-hatched chick. We should hatch chicks as early in March as practicable; for they will mature by next October and begin to lay when eggs bring the highest price. They will need more care than if they were hatched later, but will repay you for the extra trouble taken with them.

BUMBLE FOOT.—Can you inform me what is the matter with my Light Brahma hen? She walks lame, and one of her feet is swollen. She has been in this condition for two weeks. Please give a remedy.—H. S., Fredericksburg, Va.

Your Brahma hen is suffering from bumble foot, usually caused by jumping from high roosts or from running on hard ground. The roosts for Brahmans should not be over two feet high, and the run should be plowed. To cure the trouble make a cut like an X across the bottom of the foot, wash with warm water, and rub a mixture of two parts lard and one part coal oil in the incision; or if you have not the coal oil, bind a piece of rusty bacon over the cut. Place her in a box or barrel, in which put chaff or wheat straw three inches deep, so that she will have something soft to stand upon. Bathe the foot twice a week and apply either of the above remedies until cured.

LICE.—Some of my chickens stand in corners, with their feathers drawn up, and appear to be sleeping all the time. Will you be kind enough to tell me what is the matter with them?—J. B., Salem, Va.

From your description it is almost impossible to suggest a remedy, but we advise you to examine your fowls for lice. There are always lazy hens in nearly every flock, on which lice breed in Winter or Summer. If you find vermin on such hens, dust them with Persian insect powder, place them in a coop, feed on a liberal supply of cornmeal for a week, and eat them; for if you keep them they will spread lice throughout your flock and henhouse.

COLDS.—Two of my hens have swelled heads, and are continually stretching their necks and opening their beaks every time they draw a breath. Will you tell me through your columns what is the trouble and how it can be cured?—M. G., Langley, O.

Your hens are suffering from colds, probably caused by drafts through cracks in your poultry house. As fowls usually roost in about the same place every night, notice where the affected hens roost, and you will soon find the crack through which the wind enters, and nail a strip over the hole. Bathe the heads of the fowls in a solution of one tablespoonful of salt and vinegar in a pint of warm water, and then rub the heads with a mixture of three parts lard and one part coal oil; also put a small quantity down the throat. Feed on soft food, in which put red pepper and a small quantity of salt.

PRESERVING EGGS.—Please give a good recipe for preserving eggs, through your poultry columns, to a constant reader.—J. M., Indianapolis, Ind.

There are a great many recipes recommended for preserving eggs, which is equal to any of the recipes containing half a dozen ingredients. Procure a box, keg, tub, or any vessel which can be turned upside down; line with paper; put a layer of salt two inches deep in the bottom, on which place a layer of eggs, small ends down, so that they cannot touch one another. Then cover with salt, add another layer of eggs, and so on until the vessel is full. Secure the top. Turn the eggs by inverting the vessel twice a week. The object in preserving eggs is to exclude air and prevent evaporation. The salt is not affected, and can be used again for domestic purposes.

Perhaps, all things considered, the best way to make artificial swarms is to wait until it is nearly time for the bees to commence operations themselves in this line. Then select a populous colony and remove one card of brood and the adhering bees, selecting the one on which the queen is found, and place in the center of the new hive. Arrange the frames in their proper position and place the new hive—the which should resemble the old—on the old stand. If you have any empty combs insert one in the place of the one removed from the old hive instead of an empty frame, as a queenless colony can usually be depended on to build drone comb only. Or else place the empty frame next to the walls of the hive, and then remove the old hive to a new location some distance from it formerly stood.

In this way we get a large per cent. of the working force of the colony in the new hive. Now, if we have several colonies to divide, and the first swarm has been made 8 or 10 days earlier than the time when natural swarms can be expected, we will have in our old or parent colony a number of queen cells which we can use to excellent advantage. Six or eight days after making the first swarm open the old hive alluded to above, and if we have a number of good cells we can use to excellent advantage. After the young birds are 14 days old it is always best to put them in a clean nest and destroy the old one, which is by this time usually infested by lice.

When eggs are infertile it is, 9 times out of 10, the fault of the male, and another should be secured.

Hens, especially young ones, just prior to laying appear dull, and sometimes so weak as to be unable to reach the nest. When this is the case, apply a little sweet oil on a feather to the vent, and

place the hen on her nest. Holding her over the steam of a kettle for a few seconds also aids in the ejection of the egg.

THE APIARY.

Humming.

It is stated that in parts of Russia bees winter well out of doors in spite of the cold, provided the harvest is good. Successful wintering there depends on good food. When the seasons are bad their losses are overwhelming.

Yellow jasmine is a poisonous honey plant, which grows plentifully in the South. The flowers are bell-shaped, light orange-yellow in color, one inch long, and about half inch wide at the widest part of the bell. The leaves are lanceolate, or lance-shaped, and are from three-quarters to one and one-quarter inches long.

A German bee paper says that the state of the bees is affected by both a dazzling and a dim light. A glaring light on the snow dazes them, while it is stated that if they are thrown a short distance from their hives in the dusk, the effect is nearly the same. They will circle about and fall without being able to find their homes.

Examine all old colonies 10 days after the cells hatch, or 26 days from the starting of the cells, and look closely for "fresh laid eggs," as many queens will lay before this date, and we would advise killing any queen reared in the swarming season that did not lay by the 16th or 18th day, when honey is being freely gathered. It is often difficult to find a young queen in a strong colony, particularly a black one, and it is not at all necessary to find her in this case if you find eggs.

A few simple methods for finding a queen may not come amiss to the amateur beekeeper, to whom our articles are more particularly directed, taking it for granted that the professional knows his business already. The best time to look for her majesty is when they are working freely. If there are many bees afield, your chance of finding the queen is good. Open the hive quietly, using only smoke enough to quiet the bees, and examine the combs carefully one at a time. You can in the case of the Italian bee hunt as long as you choose and fail to find the object of your search, but the blacks will often boil all over the hive, and even pour out at the entrance and hang in clusters from the underside of the bottom board. Another way is to smoke the bees hard, and drum on the sides of the hive at intervals, for a few minutes, and then pry up the hive cover or honey board and turn it upside down in your hands, and you will often find the queen among the bees that are gathered there. The best way of all, in many cases, or at least a perfectly sure way, is to tack a strip of "excluder" zinc or a drone and queen trap across the entrance, and then shake the bees from the combs on a sheet in front of the hive; replace the combs, close the hive, and leave them to solve the problem themselves. After the bees have crawled through the openings in the zinc, you will find the queen looking for a little larger hole than any she has as yet found, and her capture is certain.—J. A. NASH.

each queenless colony a cell cut from our first parent hive. To perform this operation be very careful not to press on the base of the cell, and do not remove one until sealed over. Have a little box or other small receptacle with a pad of cotton batting in it and place the cells carefully in the cotton, and do not leave them in the sun. Instead of inserting these cells into the comb of the queenless colony merely place them between the top bars of the frames, adjusting the same at the proper distance from each other to prevent the cell from slipping down. This is a simpler method than grafting them into the comb, and has the further advantage of the cell being readily seen.

Now, if we insert these cells at the time of division or when we tear down the newly-started cells the bees are almost certain to destroy them, and they sometimes do anyway, but we have inserted hundreds of them in this way with very small loss. It is an excellent idea to have these cells started in our best Italian colony; also, to look into each hive the next day and see if the bees have destroyed any of the cells.

Examine all old colonies 10 days after the cells hatch, or 26 days from the starting of the cells, and look closely for "fresh laid eggs," as many queens will lay before this date, and we would advise killing any queen reared in the swarming season that did not lay by the 16th or 18th day, when honey is being freely gathered. It is often difficult to find a young queen in a strong colony, particularly a black one, and it is not at all necessary to find her in this case if you find eggs.

A few simple methods for finding a queen may not come amiss to the amateur beekeeper, to whom our articles are more particularly directed, taking it for granted that the professional knows his business already. The best time to look for her majesty is when they are working freely. If there are many bees afield, your chance of finding the queen is good. Open the hive quietly, using only smoke enough to quiet the bees, and examine the combs carefully one at a time. You can in the case of the Italian bee hunt as long as you choose and fail to find the object of your search, but the blacks will often boil all over the hive, and even pour out at the entrance and hang in clusters from the underside of the bottom board. Another way is to smoke the bees hard, and drum on the sides of the hive at intervals, for a few minutes, and then pry up the hive cover or honey board and turn it upside down in your hands, and you will often find the queen among the bees that are gathered there. The best way of all, in many cases, or at least a perfectly sure way, is to tack a strip of "excluder" zinc or a drone and queen trap across the entrance, and then shake the bees from the combs on a sheet in front of the hive; replace the combs, close the hive, and leave them to solve the problem themselves. After the bees have crawled through the openings in the zinc, you will find the queen looking for a little larger hole than any she has as yet found, and her capture is certain.—J. A. NASH.

DEMORALIZED BEES.

"We have no honey at our place this season," said a Market street merchant, residing in the suburbs. "Last Winter a distillery was set up in the valley below us, and last Summer all the bees in the neighborhood resorted to it and became grossly dissipated. Instead of buzzing about among the flowers they hung around the rum mill and spent their entire time in getting intoxicated, thousands of them falling to the ground and lying there in drunken stupor. The usual consequences have ensued, of course; their homes have been deserted, their families broken up, their savings wasted in riotous living, their lives made miserable, and their usefulness in society destroyed. Many have gone down to drunkards' graves, and those that remain are idling about the hives like disreputable old bums, with Winter here and starvation staring them in the face. Meanwhile we are short of honey, and I have got to buy some to try and clustering the scamps alive, and give 'em a chance to reform."

BOSTON COMMERCIAL BULLETIN.

HEADQUARTERS FOR ALL KINDS OF FANCY POULTRY, PIGEONS, AND PET STOCK.

EDWARD S. SCHMID,<

Established - - - 1819.

75TH YEAR.

THE AMERICAN FARMER.

"O fortunatus minimum sed et bona nascit aperte."—VIRG.

Published semi-monthly at Washington, D. C., and Baltimore, Md., by

The American Farmer Company,

1729 New York Ave., WASHINGTON, D. C.

SOUTHERN EDITION OFFICE:

228 East Baltimore Street, Baltimore, Md.

Entered at the Postoffice at Washington, D. C., and Baltimore, Md., as second-class matter.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

ONE YEAR IN ADVANCE. 50 CENTS

Write for special inducements to club raisers.

Advertising rates made known upon application.

Our readers will oblige us, when writing to parties advertising in this paper, if they will state that they saw the advertisement in THE AMERICAN FARMER. This will help to prevent us nothing but it helps us, and is information wanted by the advertiser.**When sending in subscriptions specify whether for General or Southern Editions. Unless specially directed for the Southern Edition, all subscriptions will be entered for the General Edition.**

TO ALL TO WHOM THIS PAPER SHALL COME.

Greeting: This paper is sent you that you may have an opportunity to see it and examine it, with a view to subscribing. We ask you to compare its contents, objects, and price with those of other papers, and see if you do not come to the conclusion that you ought to have it; that you cannot afford to do without it. We can assure you that if you send in your name for one year that you will find it one of the most profitable investments that you can make. We hope to make and keep it so interesting that you will think that every number more than repays you for the subscription price for a year. Please call your neighbor's attention to the paper.

OUR CLUBBING LIST.

The American Farmer Will be Sent in Connection With Any Other Paper or Magazine.

We will send THE AMERICAN FARMER and any other paper or magazine in the country at a reduced rate for the two. The following is a partial list of the periodicals that we club with:

Name of Periodical	Regular Price	With the American Farmer.
Our Little Men and Women	\$1.00	\$1.25
Worthington's Magazine	25	25
Babyland	50	50
The National Tribune	1.00	1.25
American Girl	25	25
Godey's	3.00	3.00
The Young Sportsman	50	50

A POSTAL CARD COLUMN.

A year ago we offered an opportunity to our readers to send us postal cards, giving criticisms, advice, experience; asking information, offering suggestions, etc. No one seemed willing to start them. We again propose the scheme, for the reason that the year 1893 had many lessons for the thinking stockmen, and we have reason to believe they were well learned. Why not exchange views on these topics as we go along? Tell of your own trials, successes and failures. No names will be given, if desired.

THE reception of the very admirable "First Biennial Report of the Maryland State Weather Service for the Years 1892 and 1893" moves us to comment upon the excellence of this important institution. Maryland is peculiarly fortunate in it. No other State has a better Weather Bureau, and we sometimes doubt if there are any quite so good, so intelligently conducted, and of so much practical value to every farmer. It is fully abreast of the most advanced conditions of the science, and promises to keep so. The report before us deals with the "Climatology and Physical Features of Maryland" in a very interesting and comprehensive way.

FREE Traders pride constantly about preferring low taxes to high taxes." But they cannot show a single instance of where any man's aggregate annual taxes and expenses will be lowered by their scheme to cut down his income. The \$72,000,000 which they propose to take out of the customs revenue will have to be made up by taxation of a more oppressive and grinding kind.

SIGHTS AND SCENES OF THE WORLD.

Part 5. Number 5.

NUMBERS CHANGED EVERY ISSUE.

Cut this coupon out and forward it, together with

Five Two-Cent Postage Stamps,

to the Coupon Department of THE AMERICAN FARMER, and you will receive the elegant portfolio of photographs advertised. See our advertisement on another page.

Name _____

Address _____

CUT THIS OUT.

THE TARIFF BILL.

The Wilson Bill has been in the hands of the Senate Committee on Finance for about two weeks now, and yet the committee is not ready to say when it will be able to report it. This gives some hopes that the bill will be radically changed before it is presented to the Senate. The committee has declined to hear any representatives of the various interests affected, saying that this would be merely going over the work of the House Committee, and also that the Senate Committee has received abundant information from the responses to the circulars it sent out. But this has not prevented the individual Senators from being interviewed by delegations from the interests and representations being made to them which will have a strong influence.

The most hopeful sign, so far as the farmers are concerned, is that the Senators seem inclined to consider the emptiness of the Treasury and modify the bill so as to fill it, instead of further depleting it. This imperative necessity was ignored by the House demagogues in their hunger for the applause of the Populists and Socialists.

As we go to press the indications are that the bill as reported to the Senate will strike wool, coal, sugar, iron, and lead ore from the free list, and impose a small tax on them for revenue purposes. This will have to be done unless it is intended to run the Government deeper in debt every month, and keep up a continual sale of bonds to meet current expenses. The Wilson Bill, as it passed the House, will fall many millions short every year of supplying money enough to meet the current expenses of the Government. As a revenue measure the income tax will be a delusion and a snare. Whatever may be thought of it in theory, it will be a failure in practice, and probably cost nearly as much to execute as it will bring in. Every neighborhood furnishes evidence of how successfully rich men evade such plain, straightforward taxes as those on lands and goods, and from this it can be seen how little chance there will be of collecting on such intangible, uncertain things as incomes. They simply will not pay it, and there is no way in which they can be made to pay it, without a disruption of and annihilation of business. It is the middle-class people who pay the taxes, and the wit of man has never devised a way in which the very rich can be compelled to pay their share. For example, the State of New York has probably the best executed tax laws of any State in the Nation, except Massachusetts. They are the result of long study and experience, by the ablest of practical business men. A tax law in New York will be more thoroughly executed, bring in more money, and have fewer evasions than anywhere else in the country, except in New England. Now for an illustration: Two or three years ago the Board of Assessors in New York City reported that, after making all deductions, there was \$1,500,000,000 worth of personal property that should pay taxes.

They actually collected on \$225,000,000, or something over one-seventh. This meant that the people who had a few thousand dollars' worth of personal property paid their taxes in full, while those who had millions employed skilled lawyers and took other means to avoid paying. It will be infinitely worse with the income tax, because it is not nearly so easy to get at. We are anxious to see the income tax experiment tried, given the fairest kind of a trial, so as to satisfy the very large element that is demanding it. But we warn them that it will be a failure, and we are doubtful if it will pay the cost of execution. If it does, its whole expense will be borne by people of moderate incomes, those having regular salaries which are in sight. The men whom it is intended to reach will never pay enough to meet the salaries of the bureau clerks in Washington.

A revenue duty on wool and sugar, and some other articles, is therefore a necessity, and the hope of the country is that the Senate will have the good business sense to understand this.

CONTINUE TO FIGHT IT.

Should the iniquitous Wilson Bill pass the Senate, we must continue to fight. We must appeal to the people of the United States, to the farmers, to see that men are sent to Congress next Fall, who will undo this great wrong, and give the farmers their rights. THE AMERICAN FARMER does not propose to relax its efforts as long as \$1 is sent abroad which belongs to our own tillers of the soil.

THE GREATEST GOOD TO THE GREATEST NUMBER.

EDITOR AMERICAN FARMER: In answer to some of your arguments on the Wilson Bill, in your last issue, I would like to know if the motto of this Government is not the greatest good to the greatest number? Then, we will take wool first. Every child when first born is wrapped in wool, and it wears it all through life and is buried in it when he dies. This is the case with every child born in the United States. Now, must they all be taxed to protect the few farmers who are engaged in wool growing?

The same may be said of sugar. I have raised sugar in Louisiana some years ago and I have kept sheep here in Hartford County for the past 30 years, but have never wanted a tax to protect me that I might grow rich at the expense of my neighbor, who has no sheep. Knowing full well it would go into the pockets of the manufacturers and not to the hands who do the work, who work hard, live poor and fill paupers' graves when they die, whilst the owner of the mill lives in luxury in his city palace in Winter, and in his cottage at Summer, or goes to Europe with his family to spend the money he has kept back from his hard-worked hands, money which each and every consumer of his goods has been taxed to supply him with. I am not a believer in such doctrine, therefore I wish you to strike my name from your list of subscribers, as I want an agricultural paper and a low tariff on that, and not an organ for manufacturers and monopolists.—WM. MUNNIHUYSEN, Hartford County, Md.

Emphatically the motto of this Government is "The greatest good to the greatest number," and that is the motto of THE AMERICAN FARMER. That is why we are ardent Protectionists. We are for the greatest good to the greatest number of American farmers, and through them to the whole people.

When we see \$400,000,000 a year in gold going out of this country for farm products which should be raised on our own soil, we are moved to sorrow and anger that our own people should be thus robbed for the benefit of foreigners who bear none of our burdens, who buy almost none of our goods, and who do nothing but drain us of our money.

We see in this ruinous policy the cause of most of the difficulties and embarrassments under which the farmers and the country labor. If that \$300,000,000 a year could be kept at home and distributed among our own farmers, how it would change the face of everything for the better. Think of what it would do toward lifting the mortgages, of which we hear so much; toward making agriculture profitable; toward making farmers' homes abodes of contentment and plenty; toward swelling the volume of circulating money!

It is not amazing that we have any prosperity at all, when we send out of the country every year more than \$400,000,000 for farm products?

What other Nation could stand such an enormous drain upon its money and its resources? It is amazing that this has not long ago brought National bankruptcy.

England is the only country that pretends to do it, and she does it because she decided to sacrifice her farmers to her manufacturers. She had the excuse, however, which we have not, that her farmers could not begin to raise all that her people needed to eat, and the peoples from whom she wanted to buy farm products were her customers for manufactured products.

It is simply criminal for us to sacrifice our own farmers when we can gain no advantage whatever by so doing.

Our correspondent's assertion that all the benefit of protection on wool goes to the luxurious owners of the mills, is simply incorrect. Protection to the farmer is one thing, and protection to the manufacturer quite another. The farmer gets his share and should look out that he does get his full share. And suppose that a trifling more is added to the cost of the wool in which the baby is clothed and the corpse swathed, this is made up more than a thousandfold by the cheapening of other things, and the advantages which the babe will have and the corpse has had from a prosperous farming community.

Our correspondent makes the common blunder of assuming that if the duties are taken off wool, sugar, etc., that they have disappeared as exactions upon the people. If the Wilson Bill should pass, he will be painfully taught his error, because he will find that the taxes will reappear in forms and manners vastly more odious with a greatly decreased ability to pay taxes.

GET UP CLUBS.

The best way to fight the Wilson Bill on the farmers is to get up clubs in every neighborhood for THE AMERICAN FARMER. Let every man whose interests are attacked by this wicked measure, get four of his neighbors to join him in sending \$2 for five yearly subscriptions to the paper. This will make a very cheap subscription to a very good paper, and be beside a contribution to a campaign fund for the great fight for farmers' rights.—*Mechanical News*.

WRETCHEDLY UNAMERICAN.

It is singular with what unanimity the advocates of the Wilson Bill seek to discredit their own country and its farmers. The first argument that comes to their lips is that we cannot raise as good articles in this country as foreign farmers. Lockwood was quite sure that our barley was never so good as Canadian barley, and persisted in this declaration against proof offered by several Representatives, that the barley raised by their constituents was equal to any in the world. It was the same with tobacco, fruits, wool, etc. The Boston Herald has this fling at Pacific Coast prunes:

We are not disposed to interfere with any one who is disposed to eat the California prunes, and we wish this fruit all success with those who like its quality, but we are inclined to object to the Nation being restricted to California prunes alone. Those who have compared them with the fruit raised in Europe can hardly fail to recognize a decidedly inferior flavor in the American article.

The un-Americanism of all this falsehood is sickening. There is nothing that our soil produces that is not fully equal to that produced abroad. In very many agricultural products the superior skill and intelligence of our farmers have developed excellencies that place them far ahead of their foreign competitors. We are confident that given the opportunity our farmers can surpass those of any other country in any product they can raise.

EVERY Secretary of the Treasury—Federal, Democrat, Whig, and Republican—from the foundation of the Government down to the beginning of the present Administration, except Robt. J. Walker, has protested against the unwise *ad valorem* tariff.

THE Montana sheep raisers say that they see nothing ahead but ruin if the Wilson Bill passes. In 1892 they received an average price of 16 cents a pound at the ears for their wool. In 1893 it was only eight cents.

TWO LETTERS FROM POLK COUNTY.

What the Country is Like in that Part of North Carolina.

EDITOR AMERICAN FARMER: Not seeing anything from Lynn, N. C., I will inform your readers of this noted health resort. It is in the southern part of Polk County, squeezed down between the mountains; it is not strange that it is little known to the outside world.

Lynn is one and five-eighths miles from Tryon, a small station on the Richmond & Danville Railroad, near the famous thermal belt region that extends from the foothills half way up the mountain sides. Lynn is always attractive for the Northerner in Winter and the Southerner in Summer. The air is dry and health restoring.

Prices range from \$16 per acre up to \$125 per acre for the best bottom land, where corn, oats, wheat, rye, and clover can be grown to profit. The mountain sides are covered with timber from foot to summit of different varieties. Dairying can be carried on to an advantage. Wages are 75 cents by the day, and \$12 to \$15 by the month for farm labor. Horses are worth \$100 to \$150 per head. Milk cows, \$20 to \$30; other things in proportion. Come South, our Northern friend, or to Polk County, where you will find welcome and several gentlemen permanently settled from your native States.—GRANT ARLEDGE, Lynn, N. C.

EDITOR AMERICAN FARMER: I live in the old North State and am proud of my country. We have some fine mountain views here that would interest your readers if they could see them. I think every farmer should take your paper, as it is the best of its kind published in the country.

To those who are making inquiries as to cheap land in this State, there are hundreds of acres all here in Polk County with timber enough on it to three times pay for it. The water is good and the country is healthy, and orchard fruits, berries, and garden vegetables are excellent; also wheat, rye, oats, clover, and all kinds of grass. Stock raising is profitable. The soil is black and red land, mostly level, and the remainder is very rolling, but it can be plowed, and produces well.

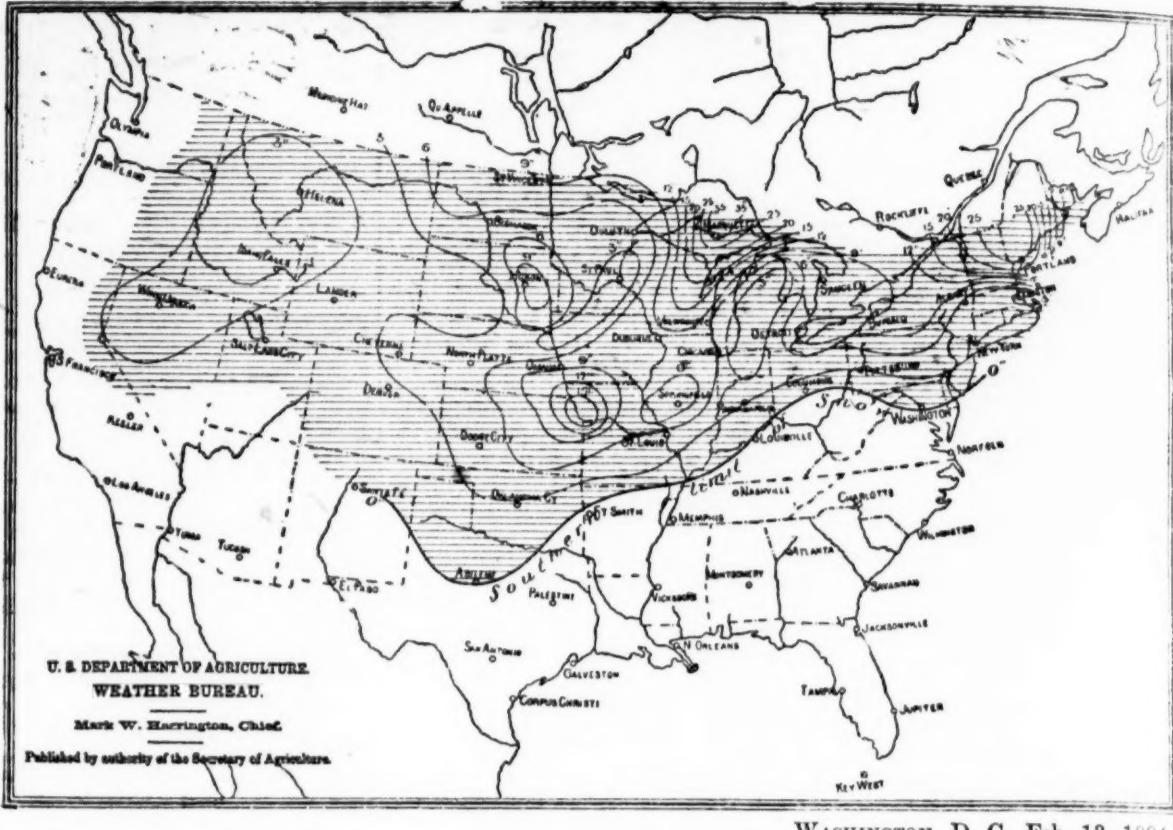
The temperature seldom gets below zero in Winter nor above 95 in Summer. Impoverished land is worth from \$10 to \$12 per acre, and the \$3 land is owned by company. We want men in this County who will help improve it. It is a good place for a man with money, but no one must come expecting to find it on bushes or grab a gold mine.

BILL HAYSEED, Saluda, N. C.

GET UP CLUBS.

The rather interesting theory is held by a Russian geologist that petroleum is produced by water which penetrates the earth's crust and comes in contact with glowing carbides of metals, especially of iron. The water is decomposed into its constituent gases, the oxygen uniting with the iron while the hydrogen takes up the carbon and ascends to a higher region where part of it is condensed into mineral oil, and part remains as natural gas to escape wherever and whenever it can find an outlet.—*Mechanical News*.

Depth of Snow on Ground at 8 p. m. Feb. 12, 1894.



WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 13, 1894.

DEPTH OF SNOW.

Over portions of southern New England, the central Ohio valley, the northern portion of the Lower Michigan Peninsula, and the area covered and the depths reported at 8 p.m. Feb. 12 are greater than for the previous week. From Missouri and southern Iowa westward over Nebraska and Kansas, where no snow was shown on the preceding chart, the ground is now covered with depths ranging from 3 to 15 inches, the southern limit over this region being from 300 to 600 miles southward of that for last week, while the depth over the more northerly districts is now considerably less. The southern limits for this and preceding week are practically the same.

Probably the most noteworthy feature of the current chart is the very small quantity of snow, from one to three inches, over the northern portion of the Lower Michigan Peninsula, where the depth at this season is usually large; in the southeastern portion of the State, however, the ground is covered with from 6 to 10 inches.

Compared with the chart for the corresponding week of 1893, it is shown that, while the southern limit for the week ending Feb. 12, 1894, generally extends much farther south than last year, the depth over the more northerly districts from the upper lakes westward were greater last year than now. Over the central portions of the country from Nebraska and Kansas to New England there is now decidedly more snow on the ground than at the corresponding date last year.

MARK W. HARRINGTON, Chief of Bureau.

Sheep Raising in the Great Southwest.

EDITOR AMERICAN FARMER: Sheep when they are properly taken care of pay a good profit. They are one of the most important factors of keeping up the fertility of the farm. But they should be good breeders and possessed of good constitution.

For the average farmer of the "Great Southwest," good medium wool and good mutton can be secured at the smallest outlay, and will return a good profit.

It is very difficult to raise the extremely fine wool sheep and secure good health and hardiness. The great part of the sheep kept over Winter should be good ewes. If early lambs are wanted they should be bred early, but unless the farmer is so situated as to provide good, dry, warm sheds or quarters, with good, liberal feeding during the Winter, and is close to a good market, the raising of early lambs should not be undertaken.

Lambs any time, say November or December,



About Women.
THE WIFE of the Czar of Russia does typewriting for her husband.

* * *

MRS. CUSTER is a famous billiard player. She became an expert in the game during her long residence on the frontier.

* * *

MRS. LEW WALLACE possesses one of the most unique and valuable paper weights in the country in a lump of rough turquoise, larger than a clenched hand, and weighing over three pounds. This splendid specimen came from the Cerillos turquoise mines, near Santa Fe, N. M.

* * *

AN INQUIRY made into the condition of needle-women in Paris reveals the fact that a workwoman cannot count on earning more than \$220 a year, which is about 75 cents a day. The designers and cutters-out of patterns and the fitters are, of course, more highly paid, receiving in some cases salaries of \$3,000 to \$4,000, and, perhaps, even a share of the profits. But the average earnings of the ordinary seamstress may be put down at a little over 50 cents a day.

* * *

OF THE 36 women who, under the leadership of Miss Annette Daisy, made a run into the Cherokee Strip when it was opened last September, an exchange says:

Twenty-two are busily engaged in perfecting a home, with their mothers or married sisters, while the lumber themselves for a house of 15 rooms, which they will occupy, and are prepared to do their own plowing, planting, etc., in the well-watered timbered section of 480 acres which they hold. They already have three teams, two cows, chickens and other stock, and, neatly dressed in short skirts that come just below the knee, and are met by heavy woolen leggings that cover the legs from knee to ankle, they appear in fit condition to carry out their plucky plan.

Giving in Marriage.

No one thing decides so completely to advancement of a people as the status of its women. The home and the domestic life settle the future of Nations. The marriage contract and ceremonies, differing widely in different lands, are an interesting study, as they reveal in no small degree the amount of deference which is shown to the gentler sex.

China the engagement is often celebrated when the bride and groom-receives are five and seven years of age, respectively. This contract is held sacred by all relatives on both sides, and nothing but death can release either of the persons.

At an early age, probably before the groom has attained his majority, the wedding is celebrated with pomp and display in accordance with the caste to which the young people belong. When the wedded morning arrives the bride is dressed in a red gown, vailed with a long red veil, and her face is doubly hidden by an extra red band and fringes. Thus attired she is taken from her room, bids her mother good-by, and is borne by two members of the bridegroom's family to his house. None of her relatives accompany her.

When she arrives at her new home she and the bridegroom sit opposite each other at a table, eat, and study each other as attentively as possible. Then the unfortunate bride is led into an inner room, where she spends the entire day alone, gazing at its red hangings, at the red boxes containing her trousseau, and listening to the revelry of the men in the main room. At sundown all the bridegroom's masculine relatives are led in and thrust a lighted candle before the face of the bride to see what she is like. This concludes the marriage ceremony.

In the Burmah census report dealing with civil phases of the people, there is much interesting information regarding the marriages of that country. Marriage is much less common there than in India, due probably to the fact that there are no child marriages. In Burmah marriage is the result of affection between a man and woman of mature years.

On the other hand, marriage is more common there than in European countries, for the tie is more easily formed and more easily dissolved, while motives of prudence have not the same weight. Desituation is almost unknown, and the wants of life in the temperate climate of Burmah are more easily satisfied than in the colder countries of northern Europe. A young Burmese couple can start life with a da and a cooking-pot. The universal bamboo supplies materials for building the house, lighting the fire, carrying the water from the well, and may even help to compose the dinner itself. The wife is usually prepared to take a share in supporting the household, and thus she has gradually acquired a position of independence not always enjoyed by married women elsewhere.

It has been decided that under the ancient Buddhist custom prevailing in

FASHION'S FANCIES.

The cut shows a "between-seasons gown" of dark serge.

If the gown you wore last Fall has shrunken so as to hang badly, by a little work it may be made to look entirely fresh.

If it were made up without a lining, as so many of the serges were, rip the breadths apart, sponge in ammonia and water and press on the wrong side.

Make up the bottom with a band of striped goods as wide as necessary to cover the discrepancy of the skirt goods.

If enough of the material is available for the back and under-arm pieces, the waist may be made satisfactorily. The sleeves, collar, front and wide girdle are all made of the striped material.

If the plain goods is black, black and white should be the choice for the second material. If the dress is blue, a soft

self, and yet be well dressed, as the present Winter; all but the first trifles of sleeves, which are no trifles to those of amateur dressmakers.—MRS. BAKER.

WOMEN'S WISDOM.

A Plea for Farmers' Wives.

EDITOR FARMHOUSE: There is probably no class of work the farmer's wife has to do that she dreads so much as the dairy work. In this part of Ohio farmers think dairying too heavily burdensome for them to take any stock in. Hence, the cows are left entirely to the woman.

From the time of milking until the manufactured product is sold it is one ceaseless round of labor.

First, the milking, which to be successful should be regular and on time, no matter what else may be on hand or claim our attention. Then the setting and skimming, washing of crocks, pans, cans, or whatever vessels we use in our individual mode of raising cream. The ripening of the cream, which is so important a factor in making good butter; then the churning, working of the butter, and preparing it for market.

We are told to occur once or twice each week we could be better able to grapple with the problem. But when the milking has to be done twice and the other work once a day, and that day after day, year after year, not even giving to us the Sabbath day, is it any wonder that the work becomes monotonous? Besides, all this has to be done as a "side issue" and in addition to our regular work of cooking the daily meals, baking, washing, ironing, and mending for the whole family, besides the hired men; gardening, poultry raising, and all the multiplicity of work that is assigned to the farmer's wife.

With all this, say nothing about the rents and taxes, the school fees, preparing them daily for school, where, then, comes the time for rest or recreation that we so much need? It is not so much the hard work that is wearing the life out of our farmers' wives as this eternal treadmill way of working that is wearing our lives away inch by inch and day by day.

There are many ways by which the work of farmers' wives could be made lighter and pleasanter outside of the dairy work, but it is to this class of work we will confine ourselves in this article.

In the first place, how many farms are adapted to home dairying? How many conveniences or even necessities can be found on the average American farm for the production of first-class butter, and if we even succeed in making a really good article of butter, notwithstanding there are so many things to contend with that are beyond our control, it is almost impossible to find a good market for our product.

Scarcely two farmers' wives make butter alike, and as they are gathered either by the huckster or country merchants and all thrown together, it is any wonder that by the time our butter reaches the market it is in such a deplorable state as to bring a merely nominal price.

Now, is there no way out of these old beaten paths? While our husbands ride on their sulky plows, harrows, cultivators, and self-binders, and mows, rakes, and loads his hay by machinery, we must be content with pounding away at the same old dash churn that our grandmothers did, or perhaps have advanced one step higher and purchased a "crank churn," and are wearing our lives away in this.

Is it not high time that we should do some writing and talking upon the factory method of dairying that is so successfully conducted in many parts of the country, whereby we can realize better prices for the raw material than we now do for the finished product, and the work is reduced? To that of milking alone, enabling us to keep more cows for the same or less work than when we made the butter at home?

Farmers as a rule do not read enough, and do not believe enough of what they do read. Many others, however, have understood something of the subject brought before them and explained to them in such a way that they will be convinced that such a course would be more remunerative, besides relieving his wife of the drudgery of making up the milk.

The milk is paid for monthly, which is of great interest to a farmer's wife who do not often see much money. We have the whole month's product at once, by which we can buy in larger quantities, thereby getting a liberal reduction in many cases, or being enabled to visit larger towns or cities and making our purchases, that are much more satisfactory than the "from hand to mouth" plan ever was; besides the satisfaction of knowing that upon a certain day you will receive a stipulated sum of money for your dairy product without this ceaseless round of labor.

Then we are enabled to devote more time to other branches of our work and give more time for the education and welfare of our children, and relieve us from this drum-monotony so prevalent in rural districts.—MRS. C. M. LAYDE, Petersonville, Iowa.



gray introduced would add to its cool appearance.

No sooner had the echoes of the New Year chimes died away in New York than the shop windows were displaying the pretty fabrics to be worn this Summer.

Laces woven to match the costumes were seen with some of the most expensive patterns.



The cut shows a pretty frock of embroidered mull. The ground is a delicate blue, and the embroidery is in a pale shade of blue and white.

The foundation skirt is of plain blue. The ribbon is of black velvet, with a satin back. The gown is made as long as possible not to touch.

Broken Bits.

EDITOR FARMHOUSE: A good habit is a good thing. Give the little girl just big enough to be in the way her own little duster and some one bit of furniture for her particular business to keep free of dust. It will grow to a habit.

It is an attractive picture that of "Gregory Rose" in "A Story of an African Farm," how in his "little daub and wattle house" far out in the Karoo bush, he kept a little duster folded in a corner of his table drawer just as he had seen his mother do, and every morning before he went out he said his prayers and made his bed and dusted the table and the legs of the chairs and even the pictures on the wall, and the gun rack. And all this too, while he was suffering from the pangs of an unconfessed love. There is no offense more of an offense than the powdery dust settled on book and shelf.

Let me tell something I've found true about the position in sleeping. Much of the tired, unrefreshed feeling of the morning, with the bad taste in the mouth, comes from lying on the left side. In this position the heart and lungs are compressed, and the stomach in the most unnatural position for work.

To those who have a weak digestion but who do not enjoy soft boiled eggs, it will be nice to know from one who has tried it that an egg boiled 10 minutes, or longer, is an easy of digestion as one boiled three minutes.

A perfect cookee recipe: One-half cup butter, one cup sugar, one-half cup sour milk, one egg, soda according to taste.

The most perfect nervine I've found is a cup of warm milk slowly sipped just as one is ready for bed.

That boiling starch is improved by adding a little sperm or salt or gum-arabic.

One teaspoonful of ammonia-to a cup of water, applied with a rag, will cleanse gold or silver jewelry.

Salt will curdle new milk.—A. PRIL.

self, and yet be well dressed, as the present Winter; all but the first trifles of sleeves, which are no trifles to those of amateur dressmakers.—MRS. BAKER.

WOMEN'S WISDOM.

A Plea for Farmers' Wives.

EDITOR FARMHOUSE: There is probably no class of work the farmer's wife has to do that she dreads so much as the dairy work. In this part of Ohio farmers think dairying too heavily burdensome for them to take any stock in. Hence, the cows are left entirely to the woman.

dashing or develops his muscle pitching horse-shoes, or the housekeeper who tries to cook with no fuel, to wash her dishes in an old, leaky dishpan, to cut out her sewing in an old, worn broom, need not lose her patience, but may lay it on the shelf until called for; but the little trials and vexations of life over which we have no control call for patience, and not being able to possess this one of the greatest virtues, often leads us into sin; this door where Satan always stands ready to enter in must be well guarded, and like every other sin our only safety is in prayer. Watch and pray, for God will help those who help themselves.—TILDA.

A Convenient Apron.

Three and a half yards of calico is sufficient material for it, if the width is 36 inches, one dollar can be obtained.

It is intended to reach to the bottom of the dress. It is easy to make and very easy to put on. The backs and front are cut the same length. One width of calico torn down the middle, with the selvage to be used in lieu of hem, makes the backs. One width, with a gore at each side tapering from half the width of the goods to nothing, makes the front. Front and backs are stitched together as far as the gore goes—13 inches from the top—the remaining edges slightly sloped and narrowly hemmed, and the tops gathered into a bow, to which shoulder straps are fastened. The front gathering is to be 10 inches long, those of the backs a little less than five inches each. One buttonhole and button. A guest at each side where the front and back meet. A hem around the bottom and a pocket if desired.

A dark apron of this kind is nice for house-work; and made of light calico, it is just the thing to wear over a good dress while setting the table or washing tea things. If trimmed in fact, none wear it but to love it, none see it but to praise.

GATHERING.

It is a great help when one has hard, stiff material to gather to run the line to be gathered through the machine, first unthreading the needle, and then make one's needle go in the holes made by the machine needle. The work is lessened by folding the material so as to stitch several thicknesses at once.

CLEAN UP CHIMNEYS.

Clean them with a handled dish mop and hot suds.—L. ROBBINS.

For the Home Table.

EDITOR FARMHOUSE: I saw your offer to the ladies in THE AMERICAN FARMER. Please allow me to offer a few recipes I have never seen in print. They have never failed with me.

I will give the recipe for mince meat I made last Winter. I boiled eight pounds of lean beef, added four pounds of suet, uncooked, and ground it through a sausage mill; added one quart of tomatoes, two pounds each of raisins, currants and sugar; one pint of sorghum, one cup cider vinegar, two tablespoons each of cinnamon and mace. When making pies thin it down to the right thickness with water, add three tablespoons of cream and a little more sugar to each pie. Bake with two crusts.

SLICED TOMATO PIE.

Make crust; put it in pan; then fill with tomatoes, sliced thin. Add vinegar, sugar, spices and butter to taste. Bake in moderate oven.

COOKIES WITHOUT EGGS.

One cup of lard, cup and a half of sugar, half cup cold water, pinch of soda, flour enough to roll out thin. Bake in a quick oven.

CAKE FOR JEM PANS.

One egg, one cup sugar, two cups flour, one cup cream, one tablespoon butter, nutmeg, and half teaspoon soda.

LAYER CAKE.

Two eggs, cup and a half sugar; beat to a cream. Then add cup and a half cream, two cups and a half flour, teaspoon soda, milk, heat to a boiling; thicken with a tablespoon flour, three tablespoons sugar, one teaspoon lemon essence; spread between the layers.

POTATO SOUP.

One quart potatoes, pared and mashed fine; one-half gallon water; add butter size of an egg, salt and pepper to taste; tecum of cream.

OYSTER SOUP.

To one can of oysters add one-half gallon of milk, tecum of butter, salt and pepper. Let the milk come to a boil before the oysters are added, and serve immediately.

BEEF SOUP.

A large soup bone; cook till tender in enough water to cover; take out bone; slice one turnip, one-half head of cabbage, one-half dozen potatoes, pared; pepper and salt to taste.—MRS. W. S. LINNEY, Neosho Co., Kan.

NUT BARS.

Peanuts, almonds, English walnuts, or pecans may be used for this candy. Prepare the nuts by removing the inner covering and chopping them. Grease the bottom and sides of a broad shallow tin pan with fresh butter, and put the nuts into it, spreading them evenly. Put a pound of granulated sugar, with half a tecum of water and a pinch of cream of tartar, into a kettle, and boil until thick, but not too brittle. Pour the syrup over the nuts, and set aside to cool. When slightly stiff, mark off into wide bars with a sharp knife, and let stand several days, when it will become soft and delicious.

I am as much pleased with this way of keeping hams as I am with throwing wood ashes on the sides of a henhouse to keep it from freezing.

The following is told for a fact: The proprietor of a Summer hotel will accommodate about 100 guests told his clerk to buy one cup, two brooms and five cakes of soap, in order to have the hotel given a thorough cleaning; also, when he bought the articles, to get a discount for cash.—P. E. C.

Patience.

EDITOR FARMHOUSE: I want to speak of the negative side to this subject. Of course, we are to be patient with those whom we cannot help, but there is a limit to such endurance, when we should arise in one night and call on God to put down the very evil over which we have prayed for patience to bear. Sometimes things need to be dealt with in the same manner with which Jesus drove out the money changers. We are patient over many things in life where it is no credit to us; to sit quietly down with folded hands and a wise shake of the head while we decide it can't be done; we must be patient, is often a mistake resulting in serious consequences.

Chocolate, or any nuts desired, may be used in place of the cocoanut.

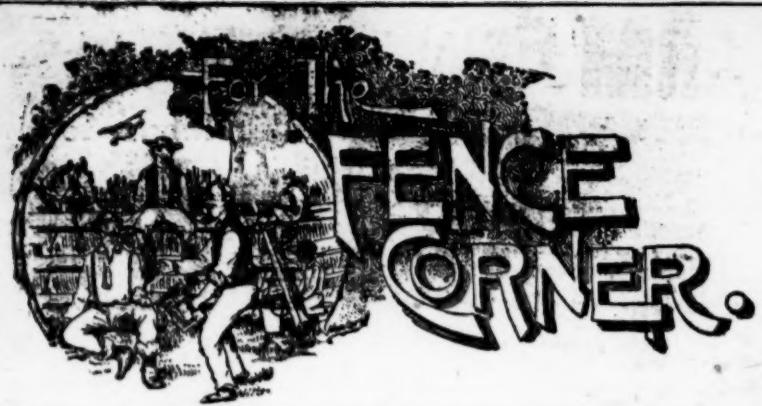
To Newspaper Owners.

I wish to rent or conduct on salary for awhile, with the privilege of buying, a country newspaper. Satisfactory references as to standing and ability. I have had 10 years' experience. Address, Country Editor, office of THE AMERICAN FARMER, Washington, D. C.

A1 STAMPING OUTFIT.

A Collection of Beautiful and Artistic Patterns for Practical Work.

In



Now, All Together.
I had a girl in Mexico,
Insect bit her on the toe,
Now she's where the ilies grow,
Name of insect you may know—
Tara-ra-ra-tula, whoa!

Macon News.

Gone Up.

How dear, oh, how dear, are the scenes of my childhood.
Though, alas! now the owner I surely am not;
They're all gone, and such meadow and deep-tangled
wildwood, and such a thousand per lot.

First Trial of Widow Homesteader's Catapult.



One-eyed Muggins (the roaming ranger)—Ef yer doan' gitte sunthin' t' eat I'll kick th' hull inside yer bloomin' ranch inter th' river. Seeso?



Widow Homesteader (pulling the lever)—Oh, I d'no. Swish!—crack!



splash!!!—Puck.

Not Like Other Girls.



"Getting a Gait On."



The Whole Story.

"Did you tell Mrs. Cawl I was out?"
"Yes, ma'am. She said she knew it,
and that was why she called."—Yankee Blade.

Worse Than Ill.

"How is our old bachelor friend,
Smith?"

"Oh, he's mending."

"I didn't know he'd been ill."
"He hasn't. I just left him struggling with a needle, a brace-button, and a pair of trousers."—Answers.

Expensive.

Elephant—Yes, I'd like to keep up with the times, but I can't afford it. It would bankrupt me to have to buy even a Spring overcoat.

Giraffe—But think what it would cost me to wear standing collars.

You Dye in
30 minutes

Turkey red or cotton
that won't fade, won't wash out. No other
will do. Send package to
"Sister" by mail. \$1.50, any color—
for one gallon, etc. By mail. Very quick.
Send this paper. FRENCH DYE CO., VASSAR, MI.

When writing mention this paper.

THE DAIRY.

Skimmings.

Mr. Nielson has announcements out that he is prepared to furnish his milking machine to purchasers. This Danish milking machine attracted much attention at the Fair.

No man can afford to handle good milk and cream with any but the best appliances. Acting upon business principles, we hear of an enterprising Western firm which has purchased an Imperial Russian separator. This machine is capable of separating 3,000 pounds of milk in an hour. It is propelled by steam, which also sterilizes the milk.

Perfect control of the flavor of butter will never be obtained till the farmers see to it that dairy cattle do not have access to rank weeds. According to the code of Iowa, the Trustees shall cause the noxious weeds on the highways in their Township to be cut twice a year, if deemed necessary to exterminate the same, and have them cut at such times as to prevent their going to seed, and for this purpose the Trustees may allow any land owner a reasonable compensation for destroying such weeds on the highways abutting his lands, and have him credited for the same, and on his road tax for that year.

For over a year the Dairy of THE AMERICAN FARMER has been advocating the introduction as a mercantile commodity the bacteria which produce the most desirable flavor in butter. It is with pleasure we note that one of the best-known Eastern dealers of dairy laboratory supplies devotes two pages of a handsome prospectus to its uses. We quote two of the most salient paragraphs:

"It is now fully understood that the quality of butter mainly depends upon such development of bacteria, and that the flavor, to a great extent, varies according as one or another of the numerous species of bacteria, always present, predominates. Milk and cream contain pure and healthful, but also impure and unhealthy, bacteria. Objectionable bacteria, if same predominate, do not give to butter the fine flavor desired, and, besides, butter made from such cream quickly deteriorates in quality in every way.

"Prof. Storch, of Copenhagen, first called attention to these facts, discovering the pure flavor-producing bacteria, and proving that, by destroying all bacteria life in cream by Pasteurization or sterilization, and then introducing into this sterilized cream a pure culture of the flavor-producing bacteria, it was possible to make fine butter even of poor cream, and under adverse as well as under favorable conditions."

Improvement in Breeding Dairy Stock.

EDITOR AMERICAN FARMER: Good cows have three important qualities: viz., they give rich milk, yield it in large quantities, and hold out well through the year. Though, by nature, there is great difference in cows, still, perhaps, as much depends on their treatment as on their original constitutions. The most profitable and desirable cow for the dairy is not always the one who for a short time, or on highly stimulating or concentrated food, may yield the most milk or butter, or both. It is these three qualities combined that make the cow. Give us a cow that is good for milk, quality as well as quantity considered, that when properly bred to good bulls will invariably produce good calves, and one that, when dried of her milk, with proper care and attention takes on flesh rapidly and evenly, and for one we rest for awhile, at least, satisfied. And till we can raise up an entire breed of cows each one of which shall possess these excellencies, our aim shall be to advance in improvement till we can accomplish our object. Equal care should be exercised in the selection of sires as of a dam. From infancy the stock bull should receive sufficient nutritious food to secure thrift, but not enough to make any approach toward obesity. In order to have a large development of the visceral organs this food should be given moist and in as large bulk as is compatible with the result desired. Quietness and docility may not be overlooked, and constitution and greediness are of the first importance.

Peach Growing in Georgia.

EDITOR AMERICAN FARMER: I would like to call your attention to the great advantages offered to settlers in central and southwestern Georgia for the cultivation of fruits, such as peaches, pears, grapes, and melons. The first shipments of peaches from Georgia to Northern markets was made about five years ago, and within that time the Georgia peach has gained a reputation that places it above all other fruits. The New York Tribune says "There is nothing in the fruit store on Broadway more attractive and refreshing than the beautiful dark red checked Elberta peaches from the orchards of Georgia. They are larger than the peaches produced for this market on the Delaware Peninsula and New Jersey, and by universal consent much more delicious than the Northern fruit." There is not another crop grown that pays a better profit on the investment than Georgia peaches. One 200-acre peach orchard has returned to the owner fully \$100,000 in four years. Small growers have done equally as well. One grower with an orchard a little less than eight acres sold his crop on the trees for \$2,500. Peach growing offers to the man of moderate means greater inducements than any other industry in any other section. Lands that are productive and easily cultivated can be bought for \$5 to \$25 per acre. While the orchard is young, other fruits and early vegetables can be cultivated, as well as cotton, corn, etc., and in a few years any industrious farmer settling here will soon become independent. The Northern idea that white men cannot do field labor in the South is a great mistake. Sunstrokes are entirely unknown in this part of Georgia.

The same general rule will apply also to the rearing of the heifer. When she shall have attained the age of 15 months, she should be mated with the bull. From this age up to five or six years old is offered our golden opportunity for the most rapid development of high dairy qualities. High condition is undesirable for a heifer in calf, especially toward the close of the term, because the danger of inflammation of the udder and its connections, always more or less manifested in the first state of lactation, quite often destroys the usefulness of a portion of those organs, and inflammation to any degree tends to check the secretion of milk and fix the habits of the cow for scant production. Sometimes it is best to let heifers go farrow the second year, to attain better growth, but liberal feeding will generally do away with this necessity of underfed animals. To avoid dwarfing our stock, the first calves of heifers should not generally be reared for breeders. Notwithstanding the low estimates at which the cost of raising heifers is usually put, it has been generally conceded by farmers that the raising

of dairy stock is unprofitable. Without endorsing these estimates, we feel confident that this state of things will continue so long as unwarmed endeavors are made to reduce the cost of production and no efforts put forth to increase the intrinsic value of our stock. Cows of extraordinary milking properties are found as often among grades among thoroughbred animals. The greatest milker that has ever come under my observation was a grade Ayreshires. She would yield five gallons at each milking, namely, twice a day, making an aggregate of 10 gallons a day during several months of the Summer, of excellent quality. The best milkers in my dairies have been, with few exceptions, the grades of the Ayshire, Shorthorn, and other stock.

As a rule, the progeny of these extra

milkers become the best cows, and every heifer calf from such cow should be raised, except it failed to carry the prevailing mark indicating a good milker.

This mark is the upward growth of the hair on the inside of the thigh of the calf from immediately behind the udder as high as the hair grows. If it runs up in a smooth, unbroken column, other things being equal, such as good care and continued thrifty growth, there will scarcely be a failure. But whatever other favorable indications and this wanting, the calf may be regarded as quite unpromising for the dairy. There are other conditions necessary to a good cow, such as fair-sized teats, an easy milker, a yellow skin; and others are familiar to all dairymen. As far as practicable, a large, well-developed animal is desirable. This is found to predominate in the Durham grades and thoroughbreds.

The improvement in the quality of dairy cows is a matter of so much importance, that to neglect it is unwise. In selecting cows for breeders great care should be taken in regard to size, hindquarters, and other points.

A cow should have a fine head, a little wide above the eyes, but quite small below, and appear somewhat long. Her nose should be of a rich yellow color; at all events, no black. Her neck should be very small when it joins the head, but widening and deepening as it approaches the shoulders and brisket. Her udder should be of good size, well covered with soft, long hair, and not inclined to fleshiness; large milk veins and small, delicate horns. They may be long in some breeds, but they should be fine.

A FARMER.

THE RUSSIAN LAW.

The Circumscribed Limits of the Oleo-

margarine and Butterine

Manufacturers.

The product obtained from a mixture of fat with butter shall be called margarine fat.

Its manufacture shall be liable to an excise duty, or to supplementary patent dues.

Margarine fat shall be dyed some bright color, but in no case shall such color be yellow.

The vessels, cases, firkins in which margarine is packed at the manufacturer shall be dyed the same color as the margarine.

These vessels shall have clearly marked on them the name of the manufacturer, and they shall also bear the inscription, "margarine fat."

The sale of margarine fat shall not be carried on in the shops where dairy butter is on sale.

Hotels, cook shops, restaurants, bars, and, in general, all public establishments in which food is prepared, shall exhibit in a conspicuous place a notice, and shall also state on their bills of fare that the dishes prepared on the premises are cooked with margarine, if such be used by them in their kitchen.

PEACH GROWING IN GEORGIA.

EDITOR AMERICAN FARMER: I would like to call your attention to the great advantages offered to settlers in central and southwestern Georgia for the cultivation of fruits, such as peaches, pears, grapes, and melons. The first shipments of peaches from Georgia to Northern markets was made about five years ago, and within that time the Georgia peach has gained a reputation that places it above all other fruits. The New York Tribune says "There is nothing in the fruit store on Broadway more attractive and refreshing than the beautiful dark red checked Elberta peaches from the orchards of Georgia. They are larger than the peaches produced for this market on the Delaware Peninsula and New Jersey, and by universal consent much more delicious than the Northern fruit." There is not another crop grown that pays a better profit on the investment than Georgia peaches. One 200-acre peach orchard has returned to the owner fully \$100,000 in four years. Small growers have done equally as well. One grower with an orchard a little less than eight acres sold his crop on the trees for \$2,500. Peach growing offers to the man of moderate means greater inducements than any other industry in any other section. Lands that are productive and easily cultivated can be bought for \$5 to \$25 per acre. While the orchard is young, other fruits and early vegetables can be cultivated, as well as cotton, corn, etc., and in a few years any industrious farmer settling here will soon become independent. The Northern idea that white men cannot do field labor in the South is a great mistake. Sunstrokes are entirely unknown in this part of Georgia.

The same general rule will apply also to the rearing of the heifer. When she shall have attained the age of 15 months, she should be mated with the bull. From this age up to five or six years old is offered our golden opportunity for the most rapid development of high dairy qualities. High condition is undesirable for a heifer in calf, especially toward the close of the term, because the danger of inflammation of the udder and its connections, always more or less manifested in the first state of lactation, quite often destroys the usefulness of a portion of those organs, and inflammation to any degree tends to check the secretion of milk and fix the habits of the cow for scant production. Sometimes it is best to let heifers go farrow the second year, to attain better growth, but liberal feeding will generally do away with this necessity of underfed animals. To avoid dwarfing our stock, the first calves of heifers should not generally be reared for breeders. Notwithstanding the low estimates at which the cost of raising heifers is usually put, it has been generally conceded by farmers that the raising

of dairy stock is unprofitable. Without endorsing these estimates, we feel confident that this state of things will continue so long as unwarmed endeavors are made to reduce the cost of production and no efforts put forth to increase the intrinsic value of our stock. Cows of extraordinary milking properties are found as often among grades among thoroughbred animals. The greatest milker that has ever come under my observation was a grade Ayreshires. She would yield five gallons at each milking, namely, twice a day, making an aggregate of 10 gallons a day during several months of the Summer, of excellent quality. The best milkers in my dairies have been, with few exceptions, the grades of the Ayshire, Shorthorn, and other stock.

As a rule, the progeny of these extra

milkers become the best cows, and every heifer calf from such cow should be raised, except it failed to carry the prevailing mark indicating a good milker.

This mark is the upward growth of the hair on the inside of the thigh of the calf from immediately behind the udder as high as the hair grows. If it runs up in a smooth, unbroken column, other things being equal, such as good care and continued thrifty growth, there will scarcely be a failure. But whatever other favorable indications and this wanting, the calf may be regarded as quite unpromising for the dairy. There are other conditions necessary to a good cow, such as fair-sized teats, an easy milker, a yellow skin; and others are familiar to all dairymen. As far as practicable, a large, well-developed animal is desirable. This is found to predominate in the Durham grades and thoroughbreds.

The improvement in the quality of dairy cows is a matter of so much importance, that to neglect it is unwise. In selecting cows for breeders great care should be taken in regard to size, hindquarters, and other points.

A cow should have a fine head, a little wide above the eyes, but quite small below, and appear somewhat long. Her nose should be of a rich yellow color; at all events, no black. Her neck should be very small when it joins the head, but widening and deepening as it approaches the shoulders and brisket. Her udder should be of good size, well covered with soft, long hair, and not inclined to fleshiness; large milk veins and small, delicate horns. They may be long in some breeds, but they should be fine.

A FARMER.

THE RUSSIAN LAW.

The Circumscribed Limits of the Oleo-

margarine and Butterine

Manufacturers.

The product obtained from a mixture of fat with butter shall be called margarine fat.

Its manufacture shall be liable to an excise duty, or to supplementary patent dues.

Margarine fat shall be dyed some bright color, but in no case shall such color be yellow.

The vessels, cases, firkins in which margarine is packed at the manufacturer shall be dyed the same color as the margarine.

These vessels shall have clearly marked on them the name of the manufacturer, and they shall also bear the inscription, "margarine fat."

The sale of margarine fat shall not be carried on in the shops where dairy butter is on sale.

Hotels, cook shops, restaurants, bars, and, in general, all public establishments in which food is prepared, shall exhibit in a conspicuous place a notice, and shall also state on their bills of fare that the dishes prepared on the premises are cooked with margarine, if such be used by them in their kitchen.

PEACH GROWING IN GEORGIA.

EDITOR AMERICAN FARMER: I would like to call your attention to the great advantages offered to settlers in central and southwestern Georgia for the cultivation of fruits, such as peaches, pears, grapes, and melons. The first shipments of peaches from Georgia to Northern markets was made about five years ago, and within that time the Georgia peach has gained a reputation that places it above all other fruits. The New York Tribune says "There is nothing in the fruit store on Broadway more attractive and refreshing than the beautiful dark red checked Elberta peaches from the orchards of Georgia. They are larger than the peaches produced for this market on the Delaware Peninsula and New Jersey, and by universal consent much more delicious than the Northern fruit." There is not another crop grown that pays a better profit on the investment than Georgia peaches. One 200-acre peach orchard has returned to the owner fully \$100,000 in four years. Small growers have done equally as well. One grower with an orchard a little less than eight acres sold his crop on the trees for \$2,500. Peach growing offers to the man of moderate means greater inducements than any other industry in any other section. Lands that are productive and easily cultivated can be bought for \$5 to \$25 per acre. While the orchard is young, other fruits and early vegetables can be cultivated, as well as cotton, corn, etc., and in a few years any industrious farmer settling here will soon become independent. The Northern idea that white men cannot do field labor in the South is a great mistake. Sunstrokes are entirely unknown in this part of Georgia.

The same general rule will apply also to the rearing of the heifer. When she shall have attained the age of 15 months, she should be mated with the bull. From this age up to five or six years old is offered our golden opportunity for the most rapid development of high dairy qualities. High condition is undesirable for a heifer in calf, especially toward the close of the term, because the danger of inflammation of the udder and its connections, always more or less manifested in the first state of lactation, quite often destroys the usefulness of a portion of those organs, and inflammation to any degree tends to check the secretion of milk and fix the habits of the cow for scant production. Sometimes it is best to let heifers go farrow the second year, to attain better growth, but liberal feeding will generally do away with this necessity of underfed animals. To avoid dwarfing our stock, the first calves of heifers should not generally be reared for breeders. Notwithstanding the low estimates at which the cost of raising heifers is usually put, it has been generally conceded by farmers that the raising

of dairy stock is unprofitable. Without endorsing these estimates, we feel confident that this state of things will continue so long as unwarmed endeavors are made to reduce the cost of production and no efforts put forth to increase the intrinsic value of our stock. Cows of extraordinary milking properties are found as often among grades among thoroughbred animals. The greatest milker that has ever come under my observation was a grade Ayreshires. She would yield five gallons at each milking, namely, twice a day, making an aggregate of 10 gallons a day during several months of the Summer, of excellent quality. The best milkers in my dairies have been, with few exceptions, the grades of the Ayshire, Shorthorn, and other stock.

As a rule, the progeny of these extra

milkers become the best cows, and every heifer calf from such cow should be raised, except it failed to carry the prevailing mark indicating a good milker.

This mark is the upward growth of the hair on the inside of the thigh of the calf from immediately behind the udder as high as the hair grows. If it runs up in a smooth, unbroken column, other things being equal, such as good care and continued thrifty